

REMARKS

In the Decision on Appeal decided 09/27/2007, the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences affirmed the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-13 and 27-39 under 35 U.S.C. 101. Applicant respectfully asserts that such rejection is deemed avoided by virtue of the amendments made hereinabove to independent Claims 1 and 27.

In addition, applicant notes that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences also reversed the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-2, 7-12, 14-15, 20-25, 27-28, and 33-38 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chess et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,711,583), in view of Smithson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,886,099), in addition to the Examiner's rejection of Claims 3-6, 13, 16-19, 26, 29-32, and 39 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chess in view of Smithson in view of Templeton (U.S. Patent No. 6,401,210).

Thus, all of the independent claims are deemed allowable. Moreover, the remaining dependent claims are further deemed allowable, in view of their dependence on such independent claims.

In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 505-5100. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1351 (Order No. NAIIP484).

Respectfully submitted,
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